GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:244
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2007
SURVEY ON CHILD LABOURERS
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy;Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to identify the number of child labourers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) if not, the time by which the survey is likely to be conducted;

(d) the success achieved and progress made so far in the 'rehabilitation of child labour' programme implemented by the Government; and

(e) the time by which all the child labourers are likely to be rehabilitated in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a) to (c): Census conducted by the Registrar General of India is the only authentic data in respect of number of child labour in the country. As per census 2001, the number of working children in the country is 1.26 crore. The State-wise magnitude of child labour population is at Annexure. However, Government proposes to conduct a fresh survey to identify the number of child labourers in the country.

(d): Government is implementing the scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLP). Under the scheme, children withdrawn from work are put into special schools, where they are provided with education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend and health care facilities etc. So far, under the scheme, 4.57 lakh children have already been mainstreamed into formal education system.

(e): Government is committed to the elimination of all forms of child labour. It is, however, following a gradual and sequential approach beginning with those engaged in most hazardous occupations and processes first.